

April 14, 1980

LB 954

this amendment.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Johnson. We are speaking to the Beutler-Wesely amendment.

SENATOR JOHNSON: Well, Mr. Speaker, members of the body, notwithstanding Senator Dworak's protestations to the contrary, this bill also is giving away tax dollars under the good name of energy conservation and let's face it. We have all decided we wanted to give away some tax dollars to help conserve energy because we figure that giving away a little bit of money now is going to yield great benefits in the future so I am a little bit disappointed with the amendment personally, Senator Dworak, because it doesn't go far enough. It doesn't really focus in on the neediest people. It just says simply that you have got to take one-third of the dollars that are raised by the bond issue and for ninety days one-third of that money has got to be made available to persons who are low income, and actually low income under this standard isn't all that low, and if it isn't all used up in that first ninety days or if mortgage lenders are slow in getting their applications out in that first ninety days, or if mortgage lenders are very slow during that first ninety days in processing applications so very little of it is used up, then the rest, the rest can go into anything, can be used for loans to anybody, riches crisis. Now, you know, I think it is all well and good for us to put tax dollars in energy conservation but because tax dollars are very finite and because money doesn't grow on trees, I sure as the devil would hone in on the neediest of people and make the wisest use of my tax dollars and that means, Senator Dworak, that what I would do is not only adopt the Beutler-Wesely amendment but probably refine it a step further so that the ninety day period isn't always there because I can guarantee you that if we have mortgage lenders dragging their feet we genuinely will not have one-third of that money used in ninety days and, of course, the rest of it will then go into finance all the rest of Nebraska, people who can probably afford sound energy conservation.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Clark.

SENATOR CLARK: Mr. President, could I ask Senator Wesely a question, please.

SPEAKER MARVEL: Senator Wesely, do you yield?